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John... Office of Legislative Counsel
Monday... 6 July 1970

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3. (Confidential - JMM) Met with Chairman David Henderson, Subcommittee on Manpower and Civil Service, House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, regarding S. 782 (Ervin bill) and delivered to him our formal response to his request for a statement of the Agency's position on this legislation. Henderson said he hoped to hold hearings in the near future, but was not sure whether he could get his Subcommittee together by 8 July. He said he personally had expected not to hold hearings but hearings had been requested by the Civil Service Commission and he would leave the decision up to the Subcommittee members. He explained that pressure from Senator Ervin left him no alternative but to report out the bill, since he couldn't afford to have Ervin spread the word around North Carolina that Henderson had buried it. However, Henderson repeated his assurances that he personally would insist on a full exemption for CIA, NSA and the FBI. He said the letters from Chairmen Mahon and Rivers requesting exemption for the Agency had been received and they were very helpful. Henderson believes that we can win an exemption in the House, but there may be trouble when the bill goes to conference between House and Senate, especially since the House conferees may not be members of the Henderson Subcommittee and may not be familiar with some of the details.

4. (Confidential - JMM) Discussed with Representative Henderson the case of the Special Forces officers from Ft. Bragg, who formerly served in Vietnam in the PRU program and from whom the Army is attempting to recover extra jump pay and demolition pay. I told Henderson that, as I had expected, these officers had been detailed to a project under Agency direction, but their administrative support was strictly an Army matter and we had no direct responsibility for their pay and allowances, etc. However, I said we queried the field for any relevant information they could contribute.

I told Henderson my understanding was that the case was now in the hands of the Army Comptroller and he might want to call him directly. He said he preferred not to do so, since there were sensitive security angles involved, but he would be glad if the Agency would tell the Comptroller of Henderson's interest and ask the Comptroller to get in touch with Henderson if the matter could not be resolved to the satisfaction of the officers.

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